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SEG news release

Society of Exploration Geophysicists

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MONTHLY SEISMIC CREW COUNT

(Month of December, 1984)

The number of seismic land crews and marine vessels searching for oil and gas in the U.S. and U.S. waters during December decreased by twenty-seven from the November total. The land crew total decreased by thirty crews and the marine crew total increased by three crews for a net decrease of twenty-seven. The prevailing reason for the decrease during the month of December was weather.

The December total (466) represents a decrease of 5% from last month, a 5% decrease from December, 1983, a 2% decrease from December, 1982, a 34% decrease from December, 1981, a 20% decrease from December, 1980, a 4% increase over December, 1979, and a gain of 30% over the same month in 1978.

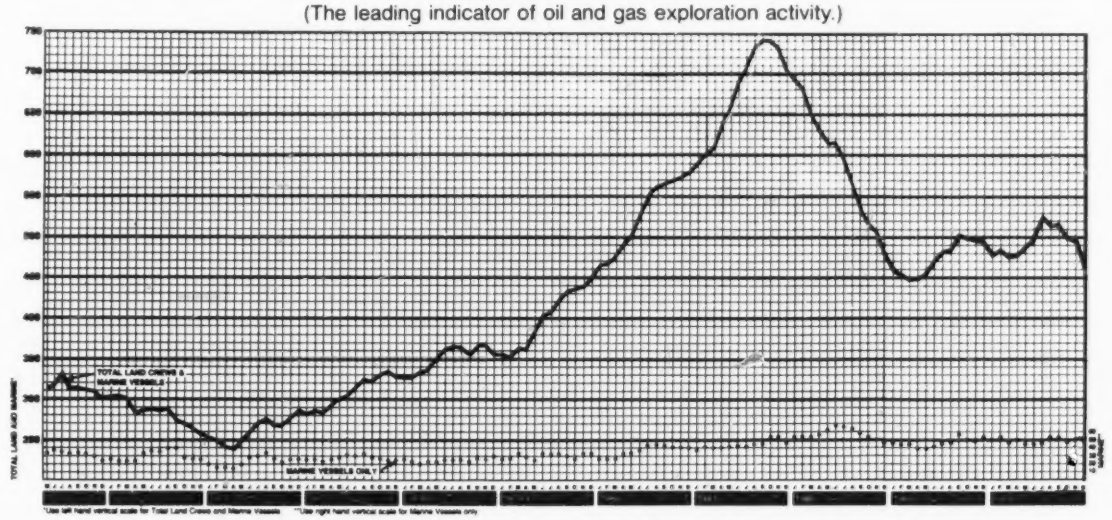
During December, thirteen contractors were operating twenty-five of the 378 land crews and two of the forty-four vessels on a speculative basis.

TOTAL LAND & MARINE CREWS:	This Month	Last Month	Dec. 83	Dec. 82	Dec. 81	Dec. '80	Dec. 79	Dec. 78
	466	493	493	477	703	580	450	358

	LAND CREWS								MARINE VESSELS							
	This Mo.	Last Mo.	Dec. 1983	Dec. 1982	Dec. 1981	Dec. 1980	Dec. 1979	Dec. 1978	This Mo.	Last Mo.	Dec. 1983	Dec. 1982	Dec. 1981	Dec. 1980	Dec. 1979	Dec. 1978
75 Contr's:	378	407	408	386	613	500	380	290	44	42	41	42	39	34	25	23
10 Oil Co's:	36	37	37	42	43	40	39	38	8	7	7	7	8	6	4	7
1 Gov't.:	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0
Totals:	414	444	445	428	656	540	419	328	52	49	48	49	47	40	31	30

SEISMIC CREW COUNT

(The leading indicator of oil and gas exploration activity.)



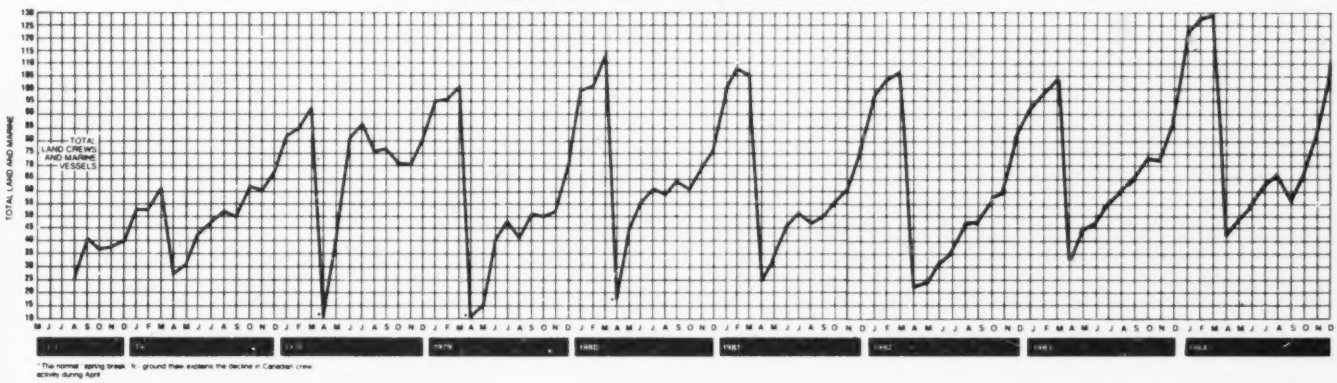
*Results of SEG's Seismic Crew Count of land and marine vessels engaged in exploration for oil and gas in the USA and USA waters, including Alaska, for the month indicated. These figures are compiled from data reported by oil companies operating company-owned seismic exploration crews and vessels and by contract seismic exploration companies. Special significance is attached to seismic crew activity since it is recognized as the leading indicator of all petroleum exploration activity.

CANADIAN SEISMIC CREW COUNT

December, 1984 (November figures in parentheses)

	Land Crews	Marine Vessels
29 Contractors:	102 (75)	5 (6)
2 Oil Companies:	3 (3)	0 (0)
Totals:	105 (78)	5 (6)

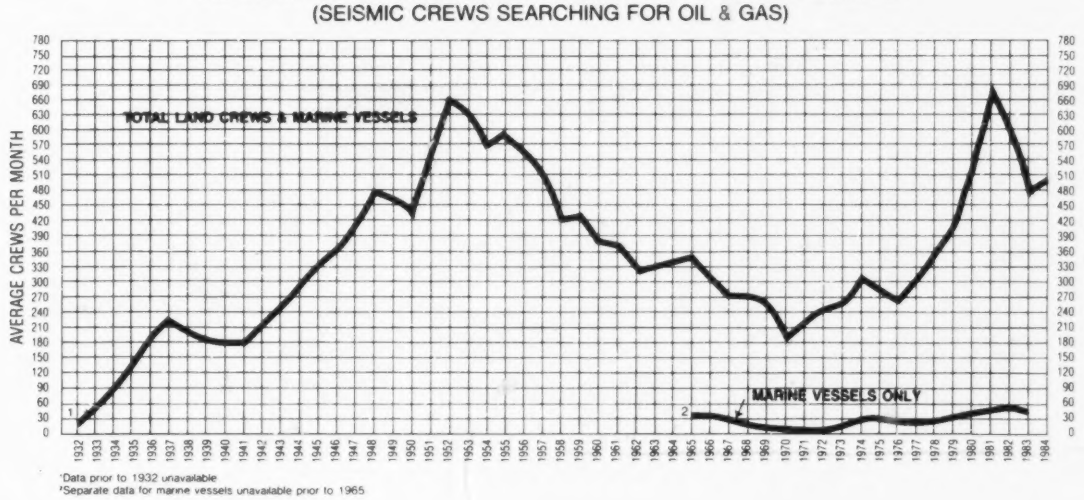
CANADIAN SEISMIC CREW COUNT
(The leading indicator of oil and gas exploration activity.)



*The normal spring break up ground thaw explains the decline in Canadian crew activity during April

SEG's monthly USA Seismic Crew survey was organized in 1974 at the request of the United States' Federal Energy Administration. The report is currently submitted to the U.S. Department of Energy. Both the U.S. and the international surveys are financed in part by a grant from the International Association of Geophysical Contractors.

HISTORY OF SEISMIC EXPLORATION IN THE UNITED STATES
(SEISMIC CREWS SEARCHING FOR OIL & GAS)



[1]Data prior to 1932 unavailable
[2]Separate data for marine vessels unavailable prior to 1965